

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

The Vice President

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Action

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EYES ONLY

FROM: NEW YORK

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1609, NOVEMBER 2, 6 PM

PRIORITY

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By MBH/RE, NARS, Date 4/22/77

RE: CUBA

AT MEETING WITH U THANT THIS MORNING STEVENSON AND MCCLOY REPORTED GIST OF THEIR CONVERSATION WITH MIKOYAN LAST EVENING.

STEVENSON ALSO GAVE GIST OF BERN'S 210, STRESSING PARTICULARLY THAT ICRC WOULD AGREE TO CARRY OUT INSPECTION ONLY "IF US, USSR AND CUBA ALL THREE, AS PARTNERS IN GOOD FAITH, ASKED ICRC TO SERVE". NARASIMHAN READ MESSAGE FROM SPINELLI REPORTING THAT ICRC WOULD NOT INSIST ON CUBAN APPROVAL BUT MUST BE SURE CUBANS WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION. NARASIMHAN NOTED CUBANS HAD INFORMED SYG IN HAVANA THEY DID NOT OBJECT TO INSPECTION AT SEA. HE ALSO READ FOLLOWING EXCERPT FROM REPORT OF CASTRO'S SPEECH LAST EVENING "CASTRO OBJECTED TO RED CROSS INSPECTION IN CUBAN PORTS, ESPECIALLY AS SOVS HAD AGREED TO INSPECTION ON HIGH SEAS".

RETURNING TO DISCUSSION OF MIKOYAN CONVERSATION SYG SAID HE HAD TOLD MIKOYAN CUBANS WISHED TO LINK IMMEDIATE PROBLEM WITH LONG-TERM PROBLEMS BUT THAT THIS COULD BE DONE ONLY IF PARTIES AGREED. STEVENSON STRESSED WE HAD MADE CLEAR TO MIKOYAN THESE TWO COULD NOT BE LINKED. WITH REFERENCE TO UN PRESENCE ELSEWHERE THAN IN CUBA SYG SAID IF THERE WERE PROPOSAL FOR LONG-TERM UN PRESENCE IN CUBA, CASTRO WOULD CERTAINLY INSIST ON COMPENSATORY UN PRESENCE IN US AND ELSEWHERE IN CARIBBEAN. SYG HOWEVER HAD MADE CLEAR TO

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CASTRO THAT US WILL NOT ACCEPT LINKING OF IMMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM PROBLEM. HOWEVER CASTRO HAD NEVERTHELESS CONTINUED TO INSIST TWO MUST BE LINKED. STEVENSON REPEATED THAT MIKOYAN WISHED US QUARANTINE LIFTED BEFORE ICRC INSPECTION ESTABLISHED AND HAD CLAIMED SYG AGREED. WE MADE CLEAR TO MIKOYAN THAT THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE BUT CONSIDER ISSUE SOMEWHAT THEORETICAL SINCE THERE WILL BE FEW SOV SHIPS REACHING OUR BLOCKADE LINE WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS AND THEY WILL BE ACCOSTED BUT NOT SEARCHED. HOWEVER IT IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO EXPEDITE ESTABLISHMENT ICRC INSPECTION.

STEVENSON POINTED OUT MIKOYAN WAS SPEAKING OF PRESENTATION TO SC OF PROTOCOL EMBODYING UNDERTAKINGS AGREED IN PRESIDENT-KHRUSHCHEV LETTERS AND ALSO CASTRO'S FIVE POINTS. STEVENSON AGAIN EMPHASIZED THAT WE COULD NOT AT THIS STAGE DEAL WITH CASTRO'S FIVE POINTS NOR EVEN FIRST FOUR OF THEM. MOREOVER HE SAW NO NEED OF PROTOCOL BUT MERELY PARALLEL DECLARATIONS. THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION OF WHETHER IMMEDIATE SC MANDATE FOR ICRC INSPECTION WAS REQUIRED. IT WAS AGREED THAT THIS IS NOT NECESSARY AND THAT MANDATE COULD BE PROVIDED BY EXCHANGE OF LETTERS AMONG SYG, US AND SOVS OR EVEN BY JOINTLY INITIALED SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS. QUESTION WAS RAISED AS TO HOW LONG ICRC INSPECTION WOULD LAST AND VIEW WAS EXPRESSED IT SHOULD ONLY BE UNTIL WITHDRAWAL OFFENSIVE WEAPONS FROM CUBA HAD BEEN COMPLETED AND CERTIFIED.

SYG MENTIONED THAT HE HAD SUGGESTED TO MIKOYAN HE RETURN VIA NY BUT LATTER HAD NOT COMMITTED HIMSELF TO DO SO.

STEVENSON

KEA

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